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study without a teacher, but with some teaching help, the wants of those for whom it is written could doubtless be satisfied better by this book than by the current text-books which deal with literary Latin only.

R. W. W.

COMMENTARIES ON THE LAW OF TRUSTS AND TRUSTEES, AS ADMINISTERED IN ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
By CHARLES FISK BEACH, Counsellor-at-Law. Two Volumes.
St. Louis: Central Law Journal Company. 1897.

It is fair to say, at least, that no author has ever treated the vast and difficult topic of trusts and trustees more thoroughly or gone more carefully into all the ramifications of that nebulous subject, implied trusts, than has Mr. Beach in the above work. The book belongs to the class of commentaries rather than to that of treatises dealing with a single title of the law. Thus Mr. Beach's plan draws him into a discussion of that form of trusts known as assignments for the benefit of creditors, of perpetuities, of advancements, of trusts arising from equitable liens, etc. Of necessity his treatment of such topics must be general rather than minute. Indeed, his chapter on "Perpetuities" may be said to be an outline rather than an exposition or discussion of the subject. The chapter on assignments for creditors is quite full and satisfactory.

Mr. Beach first presents the subject of express trusts and this very completely. Then follow implied trusts. The two further divisions of the commentaries deal with trustees, their powers, capacities, rights, etc., and *cestui que* trusts and their rights and remedies.

The book is scholarly and seems to bear out its author's claim that no topic of importance bearing on the general subject has been omitted. There is certainly room on the shelves for a work such as this which seeks to present in an orderly manner all the learning of a given legal subject, to co-ordinate it and to reduce it to a symmetrical, systematic branch of legal science. Such attempts are rather unusual at the present time, the tendency being to legal monographs, and to objective classification with a view to what the law is aimed at and not to its principles as applied generally to all forms of rights and property. Thus we have treatises on mines, on railways, on mortgages, and but few general works dealing with the law subjectively. Mr. Beach's book belongs to the latter class.

Not the least valuable feature of the commentaries is the quotation verbatim of the language of famous chancellors of England and great equity jurists of America as used by them in the exposition of leading equitable doctrines, thus giving an interest, life and vividness to the work which it might otherwise lack. These statements are the law of to-day and are worthy the attention of any jurist or advocate.

Only time and use can tell whether Mr. Beach's book is to be of great practical value, but it can safely be said that it is a scholarly, clear exposition of an intricate and important subject, and that it deserves to be well received by the profession.

O. J. R.